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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--16 NOVEMBER 1963**1. IRAQ:**

A. THE "INTERNATIONAL COMMAND" OF THE BAATH PARTY HAS TAKEN CHARGE OF THE PARTY IN IRAQ, AND IS TRYING TO RESTORE PARTY DISCIPLINE AND CONTAIN INTERNECINE PARTY WARFARE.

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C. BAGHDAD IS QUIET, AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT.

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2. CUBA-VENEZUELA:

A. [REDACTED] ARMS CACHE DISCOVERED ON THE NORTH COAST OF VENEZUELA [REDACTED] CAME FROM CUBA.

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3. ISRAEL-JORDAN:

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B. IN THE MT. SCOPUS ENCLAVE NEAR JERUSALEM, ISRAELI TROOPS ARE AGAIN HARASSING ARAB VILLAGERS WHO LIVE JUST OUTSIDE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORY. IN THE LATRUN AREA WEST OF JERUSALEM THE ISRAELIS HAVE BEGUN TO PLOW AND PLANT LARGE SEGMENTS OF A "NO MAN'S LAND" BETWEEN JORDAN AND ISRAEL.

4. LAOS:

A. THE NEUTRALIST AND RIGHT-WING CLEARING OPERATION

[REDACTED] HAS PETERED OUT IN THE FACE OF PATHET LAO RESISTANCE.

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B. IN TYPICAL LAOTIAN FASHION, THE PARTICIPANTS ARE HEADING BACK TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. KONG LE AND PATHET GENERAL SINGKAPO ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET TODAY IN THE PLAINE DES JARRES ON SINGKAPO'S INVITATION.

C. WE DOUBT THAT ANY MORE WILL COME OF THIS THAN OF THE INNUMERABLE PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS.

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5. NOTES:

A. ARGENTINA: ILLIA LAST NIGHT ANNULLED THE OIL CONTRACTS. HIS DECREES CALL FOR THE TREASURY MINISTER TO PRESENT A REPORT ON THE OIL PROBLEM. THIS PRESUMABLY WILL SERVE AS A BASIS FOR A COMPENSATION SETTLEMENT TO BE DECIDED IN THE COURTS.

B. CANADA-BULGARIA: CANADIAN ABILITY TO DELIVER ON THE WHEAT DEALS WITH EAST EUROPE IS BEING TAXED TO THE LIMIT. ALTHOUGH THE BULGARIANS HAVE BEEN PRESSING FOR DELIVERY OF 200,000 TONS BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR THE CANADIANS SAY THEY WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL APRIL WHEN THE ST. LAWRENCE OPENS. OUR LEGATION IN SOFIA THINKS BULGARIA MAY SOON TRY TO GET WHEAT FROM THE US.

C. UK: DENIS HEALEY, LABOR'S DEFENSE SPOKESMAN, HAS TOLD OUR EMBASSY THAT IF THE MLF PROPOSAL SURVIVES AND ALTERNATIVE COURSES REMAIN BLOCKED, THEN A LABOR GOVERNMENT WOULD FINALLY COME AROUND TO JOINING MLF RATHER THAN STAYING OUTSIDE. HE SAID THIS VIEW WAS SHARED BY HAROLD WILSON AND PATRICK GORDON WALKER ALTHOUGH FOR OBVIOUS REASONS IT COULD ONLY BE FOUND IN "SMALL PRINT" PARTY STATEMENTS ON GENERAL MLF POLICY.

D. SOUTH KOREA: THE REGIME IS USING MORE POLICE PRESSURE IN THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY THAN IT DID IN LAST MONTH'S UNCOMFORTABLY CLOSE PRESIDENTIAL

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ELECTIONS. IF THE POLICE GET TOO HEAVY-HANDED THERE COULD BE TROUBLE IN THE CLOSING DAYS OF THE CAMPAIGN, WHICH ENDS ON 26 NOVEMBER.

E. FRANCE - SOUTH VIETNAM: A FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL HAS TOLD AMBASSADOR BOHLEN THERE IS REAL DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE QUAI D'ORSAY AND DE GAULLE ON VIETNAMESE POLICY. HE SAID THAT DE GAULLE HAD FLATLY OVERRULED THE QUAI'S RECOMMENDATION THAT FRANCE IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZE THE NEW SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. THE OFFICIAL SPECULATED THAT DE GAULLE WAS ATTEMPTING TO SHOW HIS INDEPENDENCE OF THE US, BUT THAT HE WAS ALSO ACTING ON A VAGUE BELIEF THAT SOME FORM OF NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE NECESSARY IN THE FUTURE.

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G. BRAZIL: THE BRAZILIAN SENATE HAS FOR THE FIRST TIME EXERCISED ITS CONSTITUTIONAL PREROGATIVE TO CONVOKE AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF CONGRESS, PROBABLY TO PREVENT GOULART FROM TAKING SOME ACTION TO EXPAND HIS POWER--SUCH AS DECLARING A STATE OF SIEGE--WHILE THE LEGISLATURE IS ADJOURNED. THE LARGEST VOTE FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION--SET FOR 16 DECEMBER TO 8 MARCH--CAME FROM GOULART'S NOMINAL ALLIES, THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS.

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H. BARGHOORN: FOLLOWING IS THE TASS ANNOUNCEMENT:
"AS IT WAS REPORTED EARLIER, THE STATE SECURITY ORGANS IN MOSCOW ARRESTED FOR ESPIONAGE AMERICAN CITIZEN FREDERICK CHARLES BARGHOORN WHO WAS IN THE USSR AS A TOURIST. THE INVESTIGATION CONFIRMED THAT HE WAS ENGAGED IN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE USSR. THUS THE SOVIET ORGANS HAD EVERY GROUND TO PUT F.C. BARGHOORN ON TRIAL. BUT IN VIEW OF THE CONCERN OF THE US HIGH OFFICIALS OVER F.C. BARGHOORN'S FATE THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT DECIDED MERELY TO EXPEL HIM FROM THE SOVIET UNION."

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